

**MINUTES  
CITY OF EDINA MINNESOTA  
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT COMMISSION  
EDINA CITY HALL COMMUNITY ROOM  
Thursday September 12, 2013  
7:02 PM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER 7:02p.m.**

**II. ROLL CALL** Answering Roll Call was Bale, Gubrud, Heer, Howard, Kostuch, Latham, Sokol, Thompson, and Zarrin

Absent: Risser, Rudnicki

Late Arrival: Chair Sierks

Staff Present: Ross Bintner and Rebecca Foster

**III. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA**

**Motion made by Member Latham and seconded by Member Kostuch to approve the Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.**

**IV. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Minutes**

**Motion made by Member Gubrud and seconded by Member Thompson to approve the July Minutes.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion made by Member Gubrud and seconded by Member Zarrin to approve the August Minutes.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**B. Attendance report and roster. Members discussed not having the August meeting as required attendance due to no business discussed and a quorum not being met.**

**Motion made by Member Latham and seconded by Member Gubrud to not approve the August Meeting attendance, because the Commission has a Work Session with Council that will provide 12 meetings for the year. Motion carried unanimously.**

**C. Workgroup list and minutes. Remove Member Zarrin from the Education and Outreach Working Group. Add Member Thompson to Solar & Wind Ordinance Task Force.**

**V. COMMUNITY COMMENTS** No Comment.

**VI. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**A. 2014 EEC Workplan Development.** Acting Chair Heer reviewed the 2013 Workplan and discussed what was accomplished and what wasn't and why. He said the 2014 Workplan needs to have more specific

descriptions. The Workplan needs to include total staff time and budget requests in order to complete a Workplan item.

Chair Sierks arrived at 7:35p.m.

### **Proposed 2014 Workplan**

- 1. City Building Energy Efficiency.** The City can lead by example and save money over the long term by prioritizing energy efficiency and greenhouse gas reduction.
- 2. Environmental Purchasing Policy.** Review implementation since March 20, 2012 policy adoption. Review quarterly task force meeting materials, product analysis and evaluations, and annual report.
- 3. Energy Efficiency Community Outreach**
  - a. Host an event in April similar to years' past "What's Up With The Weather?" and "Our Clean Energy Future."
  - b. Promote EEEP, Community Solar and personal energy use awareness.
  - c. Participate in Home Energy Squad (HES) project to provide educational materials, Edina 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade and other promotion for Center for Energy and Environment's (CEE) "Home Energy Squad – Enhanced Visit" by entering into an agreement with CEE.
- 4. Integrate Comprehensive Plan Chapter 10 Into City Operations.** Taking meaningful action to integrate the environmental goals and objectives stated in Chapter 10 of the City's Comprehensive Plan requires incorporating these policies into standard city practices and operations. EEC will form a task force to develop a plan to address three Chapter 10 priorities: Greenhouse gas reduction, energy efficiency, and City buildings and operations.
- 5. Business Recycling Task Force.** The task force will review the results of the pilot program with Hennepin County, perform additional pilot work independently if needed, and conduct a review of other community's best practices. The work will be summarized with recommendations for a course of action.
- 6. Local Food.** Review practices of keeping bees and chickens on residential lots and propose changes to ordinance to allow.

### **Ongoing Responsibilities**

- 1. Green Step Cities Reporting** – review ongoing activities in GreenSteps program.
- 2. Urban Forestry** – track progress through Parks and Planning Commissions, review final product.
- 3. Solid Waste and Recycling** – track MPCA compost rulemaking and emerald ash borer quarantine changes.
- 4. Support City and Commission Activities** – participate in stakeholder engagement such as France Ave Design, Grandview Area, Living Streets, 54<sup>th</sup> Street, and others.
- 5. Green Step Cities Reporting** – review ongoing activities in GreenSteps program.

**Motion made by Member Gubrud and seconded by Member Latham to approve the proposed 2014 EEC Work Plan. Motion carried unanimously.**

Member Risser has expressed interest in leaving the EEC due to schedule conflicts with Thursday meetings. Chair Sierks will contact Member Risser and ask her if she would like the monthly EEC meetings to change days or if she doesn't want to participate on the Commission.

B. Create New Working Groups. This topic was tabled.

## **VII. CORRESPONDENCE & PETITIONS**

A. Volunteer applications Harmon and Usem. Acting Chair Heer said Andy Harmon and Renee Usem will be invited to the October EEC meeting.

**VIII. CHAIR AND COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS.** The EEC requests City Council to ask the City Manager and City Staff to perform a rough quantitative analysis of the Green House Gas impact of the proposed new City facilities such as the new sports dome, new outdoor refrigerated ice rinks, and new parking structures around 50th & France, to see how they will impact Edina's stated goal of 25% GHG gas reduction by 2025 that is in Section 10 of the Comprehensive Plan and the likelihood of achieving that goal.

**Motion made by Member Kostuch and seconded by Member Latham to approve the Green House Gas reduction advisory to Council. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Chair Sierks excused himself from the meeting at 9:05p.m.**

Member Latham announced the Historic Edina House Tour will be held Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-5:00pm. Member Thompson announced the Community Solar Gardens Event will be held Friday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, October 11<sup>th</sup> and November 15<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8pm. Member Sokol announced Project Earth is selling Chinook Book which is a coupon book and 50% goes back to the club. Member Zarrin announced Edina Business Recycling will kick off September 25<sup>th</sup> at the Edina Chamber of Commerce. Acting Chair Heer welcomed new student Member Sarah Bale.

## **IX. STAFF COMMENTS**

A. City projects update. Mr. Bintner presented the Edina Promenade Phase #4 plans to the Commission. This project will be integrated with a Water Quality Infiltration Project, permanent pedestrian path, additional trees, shrubs, "Babbling Brook" channel, etc. The subsurface infiltration options will be a shallow underground irrigation/infiltration, deep underground infiltration, shallow garden basins, or shallow gardens with rock channels. The new features will reduce phosphorus in the water.

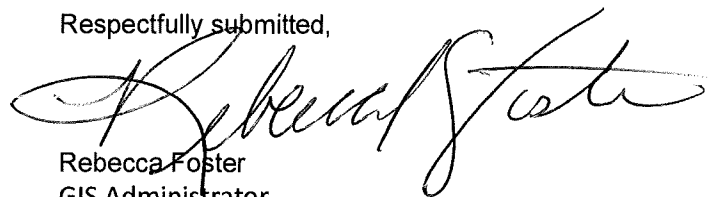
**Member Howard excused himself from the meeting at 9:36p.m.**

Mr. Bintner gave an update on the W. 54<sup>th</sup> St Corridor Preliminary Engineering and Storm Water Management plan to the Commission. There is a meeting on Monday, September 30<sup>th</sup> to engage the City's Commissions. The Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure Envision product is what's being used to help design the project to be more sustainable. There are five different categories that the project received credits in.

There being no further business on the Commission Agenda, Acting Chair Heer declared the meeting adjourned at 9:40p.m.

**Motion made by Member Thompson and seconded by Member Latham to adjourn meeting. Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rebecca Foster". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Rebecca Foster  
GIS Administrator